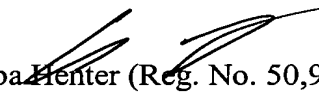


REMARKS

The arguments filed on April 28, 2005, should now be entered and are incorporated herein by reference. For the reasons discussed therein, Pace does not teach or suggest the claimed subject matter with a brittle-fracture sealing element as recited. Moreover, the 112 rejection is now moot.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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Filed: August 1, 2005

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